

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : **10/767,877**
Applicant(s) : **BONER, Mark C. et al.**
Filed : **01/29/2004**
TC/A.U. : **1724**
Examiner : **CINTINS, Ivars C.**
Title : **Apparatus and Method for Filtering Fluids**
Docket No. : **042716.005**
Customer No. : **25461**

Confirmation No.: **4110**

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION FOR ELECTION/RESTRICTION

This is in response to the requirement for restriction dated March 14, 2006.

In the Office Action dated March 14, 2006, the Examiner has required restriction to one of the inventions I and II under 35 U.S.C. §121.

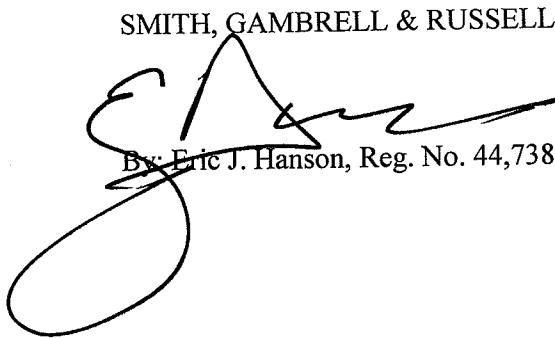
Applicants provisionally elect with traverse the subject matter of group II, namely claims 26, 27, 32-36, and 45-50, drawn to a method for filtering a fluid, classified in class 210, subclass 793.

Applicants further provisionally elect for prosecution purposes and without limitation to any generic claims finally held allowable, the species of "compressible filter media" with fiber including a polyester inner core with a polypropylene sheath. Those claims remaining for consideration following this election and read upon the elected species are all claims including "compressible filter media," namely claims 26, 27, 32-36 and 45-50.

Examination on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP


By: Eric J. Hanson, Reg. No. 44,738

Dated: April 11, 2006
1230 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Suite 3100, Promenade II
Atlanta, Georgia 30309-3592
Tel: (404) 815-3706
Fax: (404) 685-7006